Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Report by the Kingdom of Morocco on the implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the 1995 resolution on the Middle East

I. Implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and of paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament

1. The Kingdom of Morocco remains committed to general and complete disarmament and in particular to nuclear disarmament. Since its accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 1970, it has constantly worked for the total elimination of nuclear weapons and their non-proliferation. Morocco believes that the Non-Proliferation Treaty is the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and a key instrument for the maintenance of peace and security in the world. It has therefore always supported initiatives aimed at strengthening the authority of this regime and promoting its universality.

2. In implementation of the Treaty, Morocco concluded a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as of 1975 and has undertaken the domestic procedure for signing an additional protocol.

3. At the level of the General Assembly, Morocco has always supported the adoption of resolutions for the promotion of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

4. As a Contracting Party, the Kingdom of Morocco has consistently supported the decisions aimed at strengthening the review process of the Treaty.

5. The new international security situation resulting from the events of 11 September 2001 demonstrated the enormous importance of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the need to preserve its strength and credibility in order to confront the threats associated with nuclear terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Morocco believes that the strengthening of the multilateral regime of the Non-Proliferation Treaty remains a necessary measure to combat the

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illicit proliferation of nuclear devices and materials and their possession by terrorists.

6. Morocco has ratified the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials.

7. Morocco stresses the crucial importance of respect by all States Parties for the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the obligations arising from it.

8. Morocco, which supports a total ban on nuclear tests, has signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. It deplores the fact that this Treaty, which was opened for signature on 24 September 1996, has still not entered into force. In this respect, it reiterates its appeal to all States which have not yet done so to accede to the Treaty without delay. It stresses the importance of respect for the moratoriums on nuclear tests and of the convening of conferences in order to facilitate the entry into force of the Treaty.

9. Morocco reaffirms the inalienable right of the States Parties to the Treaty to carry out research and develop the production and utilization of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, particularly through international cooperation under IAEA monitoring.

10. Morocco endorses action to overcome obstacles in the work of the Conference on Disarmament, and continues to support the undertaking of negotiations for the formulation of a treaty on fissile material, a legal instrument on negative security assurances and a convention on nuclear disarmament.

11. Morocco fully supports the positive conclusions of the Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 2000, and reaffirms the importance of their implementation by the States Parties, in a transparent and irreversible manner.

II. Implementation of the 1995 resolution on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East

1. The Kingdom of Morocco remains convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime. For that reason, it has always supported the establishment of such zones where they did not exist.

2. Morocco was one of the first countries to call for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, because it believes that the existence of such a zone is not only a necessary measure to banish proliferation and insecurity in this region, but also an international objective and a factor in the consolidation of peace and security in the world.

3. At the level of the League of Arab States, Morocco is participating in the development of a legal and technical mechanism for the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

4. Within IAEA, Morocco is engaged in promoting the application of the safeguards regime throughout the Middle East region, because it believes that this is an international security measure which should affect all States of the world.

5. Morocco encourages the conclusion by all States of the Middle East region, including Israel, of comprehensive safeguards agreements with IAEA, as an important step towards the creation of a climate of trust between the States of the region, and a preliminary measure for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

6. Morocco has helped promote confidence-building measures between the States parties to the conflict in the Middle East, particularly by participating in the work of the Multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security.

7. The establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East requires that the only State of the region — Israel — which is not yet a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty should accede to it and submit its nuclear installations to the IAEA safeguards regime. This concern was specifically mentioned in the decisions of the review conferences of the Non-Proliferation Treaty held in 1995 and 2000.

8. Morocco stresses the need for all the parties concerned to take concrete measures, as a matter of urgency, for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East region, and pending the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly their intention to refrain, on the basis of reciprocity, from manufacturing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and not to allow the emplacement of nuclear weapons in their territories by any third party.

9. Morocco believes that appropriate security measures should be established for nuclear installations.

10. The Kingdom of Morocco is conducting sustained action, at both regional and international levels, to encourage all the States of the region to undertake the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

11. The Kingdom of Morocco constantly reiterates its appeal to the nuclear Powers, and particularly to the depositaries of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, to the international community and to international organizations to rise to their responsibilities for the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.